

My dear Mr Chapman;

Your long delayed box of Liberty Bells
& Bazaar Reports have ^{just} come to hand, &
they shall all be distributed as soon as
practicable. We are quite grieved at your
having prepared it at the expense of so
much overfatigue & self-denial, & can assure
you that you give us no cause to doubt your
abundant appreciation of the slight aid we
render you in your great work, & that impor-
-tance for acknowledgements of our contribu-
-tions has no place in our minds. They ^{presented to my Father & myself} beautiful editions of the Liberty Bell shall
be made good use of; accept our best thanks
for them. There is one ^{inscribed} directed to "Mrs Russell"
& another to "Miss Thornley" without any
further address, so that I am at a loss to
know for whom they ^{are} ~~were~~ designed. Both
those names appear among our list of con-
-tributors, but there being nothing remarkable
in their donations, & they having no con-
-nection with any of our transatlantic
friends, I can hardly think they are the
individuals intended. I will retain them

in safety till I have received some further
intimation. The suggestion you refer to in
your interesting letter to me, respecting
holding a bazaar in Bristol, could not have
emanated from me; for I feel convinced it
w^d not be practicable. People w^d not work
so readily, nor w^d purchasers be found;
for Bazaars are things for with w^h people
here are nearly satiated, & only attend ^{things} when
some pressing home object invites, in suffi-
cient numbers to render it profitable.

Seeing a collection of things about to be trans-
mitted to America has more attractions,
& some particular articles might be wished
for by the spectators, but generally speaking
there w^d be the most production among you.
So I think we must go on as heretofore, unless
we can find some means of discouraging trash
contributions. I am sorry not to be able to
recall the kind of stationery sent by Mr.
James, but I fancy it was some perfectly
plain; & if I am right this implies that
the plain kind is more sought for by our
purchasers than the ornamental. Is this
the case? If so we have erred in seeking
novelties of the latter sort, imagining them
likely to be most attractive, instead of
laying in stores of the former. But perhaps
you refer to all the stationery sent in the

by Mr Garrison, the greater part of wh^{ch}
was procured with the residue of the money
entrusted to us for the Fair? We are very
much obliged to you for allowing us to
peruse yr letter to Lucy Brown. & also,
from wh^{ch} we have derived much infor-
-mation & interest. I am quite unable
to write a response to any of the sentiments
you touch upon. By this opportunity, having
barely time to pen a few acknowledgements
to send by F. Douglass who has been once more
warming our hearts by his powerful appeals
for his oppressed countrymen. His defence
of the Abolitionists from the charge of infidelity
- showing that such a charge made by the
professing Christian Churches of America
is the greatest of honor, & instancing the
Abolitionists as the ^{only} real preachers, ~~exem-~~
~~plifying~~ ^{exemplifying}, & converters to, Chris-
-tianity, was one of the most stirring, eloquent, &
touching passages I ever remember listening
to; but I must not trust myself at this late
hour to enter upon this exciting topic.
I shall hope to write to you more fully a little
while hence, & shall be obliged by yr answer-
ing my query about the Liberty Bells, at yr con-
-venience. We had no expectation of yr
printing the whole long list of contributors

to our box, or I w^d have drawn it up with
more verbal nicety. But it will doubtless
give much gratification to the numerous
individuals designated in it. With every
affectionate wish Believe me

Most sincerely yours
Mary Estlin.

My Father is unable to answer either
of letters to him by the ^{opportunity}, but
he sends you his best thanks & his kind
regards. You have drawn a picture of our
imaginary visit to yr shores with our box
of contributions, precisely similar to one
created & indulged in by myself & my friend
Kate Parker, for many weeks ^{last September} only ^{after} ^{Mr Garrison} ^{had actually sailed}
after Mr Garrison had actually sailed
for his native land. But I fear those vi-
sions are destined to remain such, for
our line of duty are elsewhere tracked out.
Will you give her love & mine (if he will
accept them) to Mr Garrison. He is a
very frequent topic of our conversation,
always ^{dwelt on} with the warmest affections.

Bristol, April 2. 1849.

1849

Mary Estlin

Ms. A. 9. 2. 23. 21